

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A processing system provides predicate data that indicates whether instructions processed by a processor pipeline should be executed by the pipeline. In architecture, the system of the present invention utilizes a register, a pipeline, and

5 predicate circuitry. The pipeline includes a first stage and a second stage for processing instructions of a computer program. The predicate circuitry is configured to read a first predicate value from the register and to receive a second predicate value. The predicate circuitry may transmit the first predicate value read from the register to the first stage and then select between the first predicate value and the second

10 predicate value. The predicate value selected by the predicate circuitry is transmitted to the second stage.